ANCHOR CHEMICALS
NEW YORK
EPA ID# NYD001485226

EPA REGION 2
CONGRESSIONAL DIST. 03
Nassau County
Hicksville, near Cantiaque Park

Site Description

Anchor Chemicals, later known as Anchor-Lith Kem Ko, operated on a 1 ½-acre site in Hicksville, New York from 1964 to 1984. The company blended and packaged chemicals for the graphic arts industry. A machine resale company is now using the building as a warehouse. While Anchor was in business, chemicals were stored above and below the ground; 17 underground storage tanks ranging in capacity from 550 to 4,000 gallons lie beneath the concrete floor of the building. Between mid-1981 and early 1983, six leaking underground tanks were taken out of service. The company installed three monitoring wells in 1982. The wells revealed that subsurface soil and groundwater were contaminated with chlorinated organics. Elevated levels of inorganic contamination were detected in four dry wells on-site. The area surrounding the site is residential and the Cantiaque Park and golf course is located 100 yards north of the site. Approximately 90,000 people live within 3 miles of the site and draw their drinking water from municipal and private wells. Groundwater also is used for irrigation and industrial processes. Approximately 12,000 people and 11 schools are located within a 1 to 1-1/2 mile radius of the facility.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible party actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 10/01/84
Final Date: 06/01/86
Deletion Date: 09/30/99

Threats and Contaminants

Groundwater and dry well sediments were contaminated with elevated levels of lead, chromium and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The only likely route of exposure to the contaminants was through contaminated groundwater. Public water is available to everyone in the area. However, contaminated groundwater was a potential threat to the water supply wells of the Westbury, Hicksville, and Bowling Green water districts, which are all located less than 6,500 feet southwest of the site. Since EPA's inclusion of the site on the NPL, contaminant levels in the groundwater and soil have significantly decreased so that the site is no longer a threat to the water supply wells.

Cleanup Approach

On September 29, 1995 and September 30, 1995, approximately 21 tons of contaminated sediments were excavated from four dry wells on-site. Analysis of samples from the sediments indicated high levels of lead, chromium and VOCs. Before the removal action, analysis of groundwater samples revealed high concentrations of lead and chromium. Groundwater samples were collected in April 1996 to assess the effectiveness of the removal action. No contaminants were detected above drinking water MCLs. A second round of groundwater samples were taken in July 1997. Nickel and chromium were detected in the second round; however, the levels do not justify a change in EPA's no further action decision for the site.

Response Action Status

Immediate Action: Anchor Chemicals was fenced to prevent trespassers from accessing the site and being exposed to hazardous wastes. In September 1995, sediments from four dry wells, which had elevated concentrations of lead, chromium and VOCs, were excavated and transported off-Site for disposal.

Entire Site: The party potentially responsible for contamination at the site signed an Administrative Order on Consent to perform a study of the site in June 1989. The investigation, which began later in 1989 and was completed in 1995, mapped out the nature and extent of the problem. EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the site in September 1995. The ROD determined that after contaminated sediments were removed from the four dry wells no further remedial action was necessary. The laboratory results for two rounds groundwater samples, which were collected at the Site in 1996 and 1997, confirmed that no further action for the site is necessary.

Cleanup Progress

The removal action consisted of excavation and removal of approximately 21 tons of contaminated sediments from four dry wells. The results of two rounds of groundwater samples, collected in 1996 and 1997, confirmed that the site does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment. EPA removed the site from the NPL on September 30, 1999.

Site Repository

Hicksville Public Library- Public Relations, 169 Jerusalem Avenue, Hicksville, New York 11801